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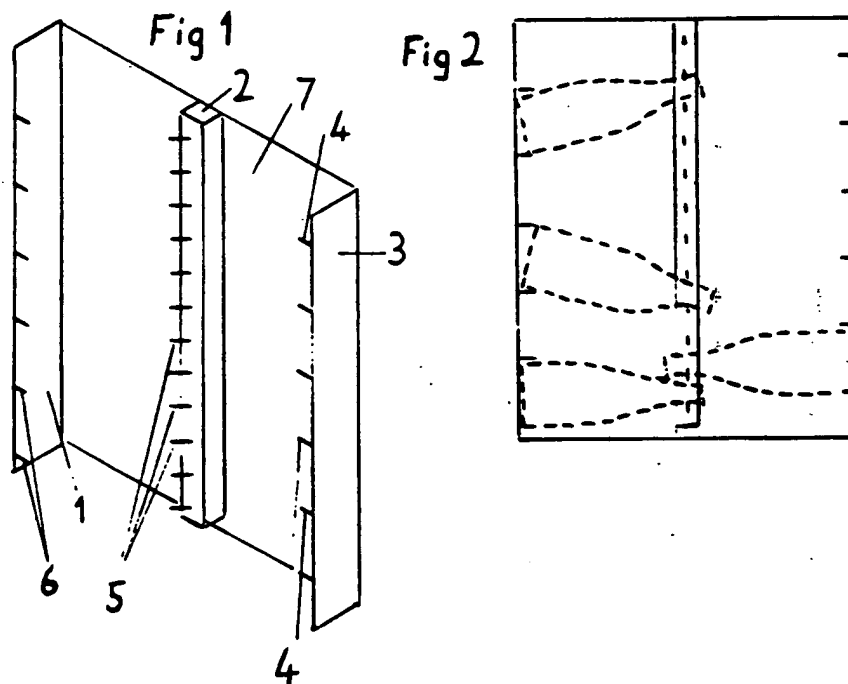
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(54) Lateral wine bottle rack

(57) A racking system has end frames 1 and 3 forming a means of support for the bases of bottles of various sizes, to allow the alternate stacking of bottles from either end with necks supported on frame 2 assembly, which has openings of sufficient size to accommodate the necks of these bottles without allowing excessive horizontal movement. By using different combinations of end and central supports bottles may be stacked horizontally or inclined downwards or upwards. Individual bottles are identifiable.



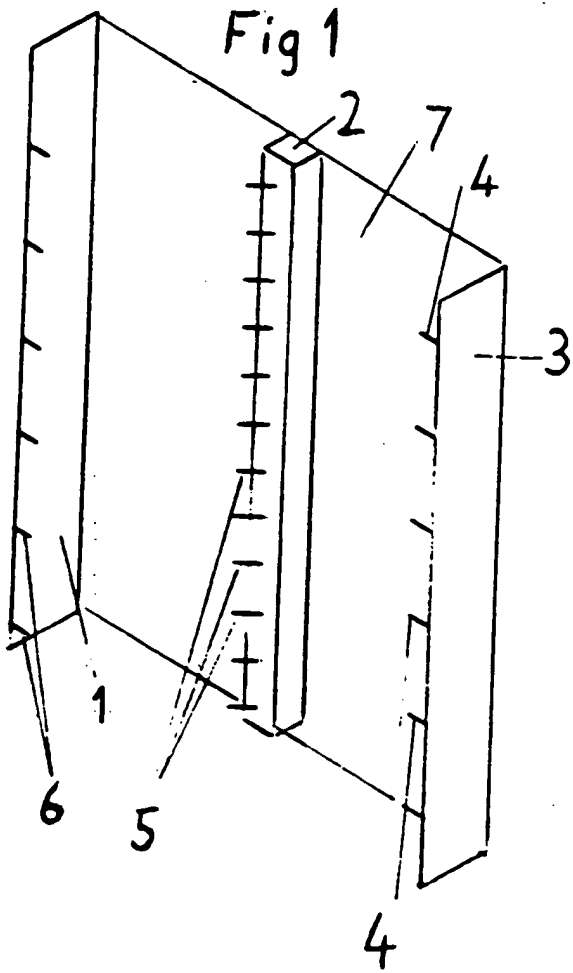


Fig 2

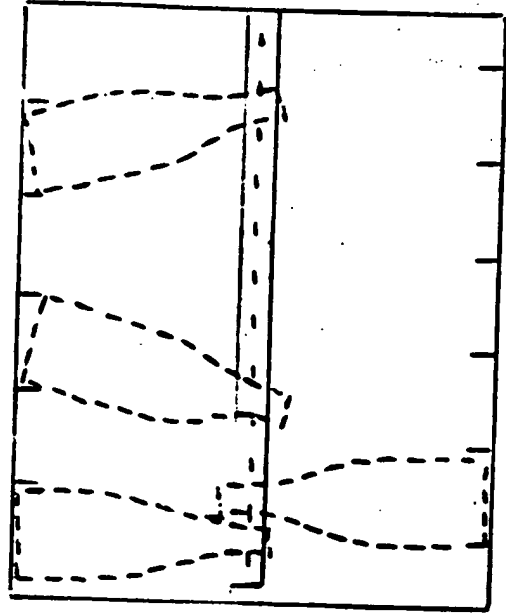


Fig 3

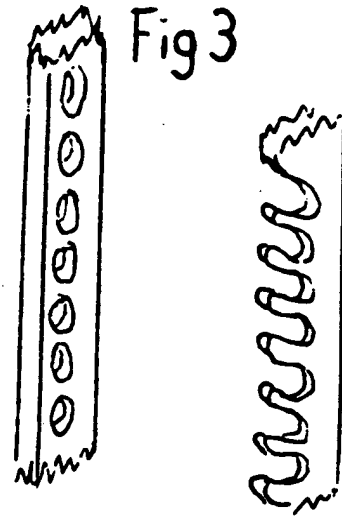


Fig 5

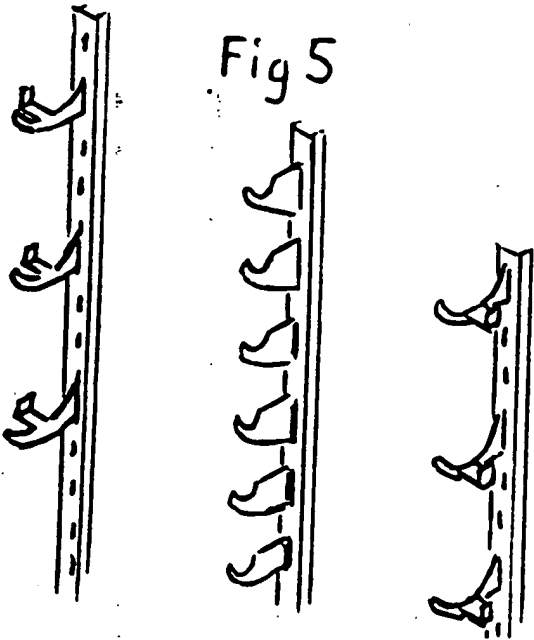
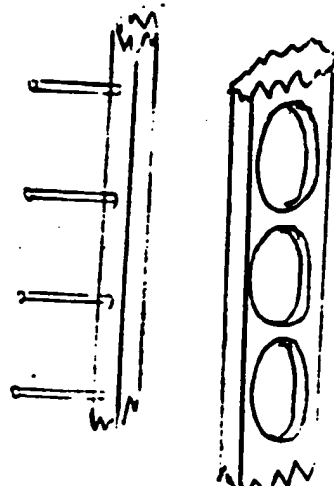


Fig 4



LATERAL WINE BOTTLE RACK

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This invention relates to a lateral wine bottle rack.

Racks for the support of wine bottles come in a wide variety of materials, styles and designs. The principle of operation, however, is always the same. The bottles have to be inserted from front to rear. The rack has to be adjusted or modified to accommodate bottles inclined either downwards, horizontally or upwards. These racks also occupy a fairly large area. It is usually necessary to remove the bottle to read the label and distinguish the particular brand.

According to the present invention there is provided a racking system with a means of storing bottles laterally, and means to alter the angle of inclination of individual bottles.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:-

Figure 1 shows the rack in perspective;

Figure 2 illustrates the rack in operation;

Figure 3 illustrates alternative central supports;

Figure 4 illustrates alternative end supports; and

Figure 5 illustrates an alternative system employing the same principles.

Referring to the drawing the rack comprises end frame 1 to which are attached supports 6, centre frame 2 to which are attached supports 5 and end frame 3 to which are attached supports 4. The three frames 1 2 and 3 are mounted on back panel 7.

The end frames 1 and 3 have supports 6 and 4 attached in a position relative to the rear panel 7 to retain the bases of bottles from 375ml. to 1 ltr. capacity. The height of the supports 6 in frame 1 differs from the height of the supports 4 in frame 3 to allow the necks of bottles to rest on supports 5 in frame 2 alternately from left and right.

It is not essential to use supports 4 5 and 6 as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. Alternative means of restraining the bottles such as those illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4 could also be used. In this case the rear panel 7 in Figs. 1 and 2 will not be required.

The same result may be achieved by using the clips 8 9 and 10 in Fig. 5 or similar retainers slotted into standard shelf tracking.

The bottles are placed in the rack using whichever supports are required to achieve the desired attitude.

CLAIMS

- 1 A racking system with a means of of storing bottles laterally and means to alter the angle of inclination of individual bottles.
- 2 A racking system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein means are provided for the support of the base of horizontal and inclined bottles.
- 3 A racking system as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein means are provided for the support of the necks of horizontal and inclined bottles.
- 4 A racking system as claimed in Claim 1, Claim 2 or Claim 3 wherein means are provided to store bottles in a manner allowing their necks to overlap.
- 5 A racking system substantially as described herein with reference to Figures 1-5 of the accompanying drawing.